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THE 1990 CENSUS AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY
PRELIMINARY FINDINGS
THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION IN
SAN FRANCISCO

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SF City Planning Commission
THE 1990 CENSUS AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY
PRELIMINARY FINDINGS*
THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION IN SAN FRANCISCO

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San Francisco as a Whole

1. The current size of San Francisco African-American population, by the 1990 census, is 79,039 persons which is 10.9% of the total population. The total size of San Francisco's population is 723,959.
2. The census indicates a significant continuing decline in the size of San Francisco's African-American population. Between 1980 and 1990, African-Americans and whites were the only major ethnic groups in San Francisco to experience absolute and percentage declines in population size. The African-American population size dropped 9%, from 86,414 in 1980 to 79,039 in 1990. White population size dropped 2%, from 395,081 in 1980 to 387,783 in 1990.
3. African-Americans, once the second largest ethnic group in San Francisco, is now the fourth largest. Its current population size of 79,039 follows that of whites (387,783 or 53.6%), Asian (210,876 or 29.1%), and Hispanics (83,373 or 12.3%)

Neighborhoods

1. Over half of the African-American people in San Francisco live in three neighborhoods: Western Addition; Oceanview, Merced, Ingleside (OMI); and Bayview Hunters Point. The ratio living in these neighborhoods has declined slightly from 61.5% in 1980 to 59.5% in 1990.
2. The loss in African-American population has primarily occurred in Western Addition and OMI. Western Addition lost 4,261 people between 1980 and 1990, and OMI lost 2,244. There was an additional loss of 2,496 persons in other neighborhoods scattered throughout other parts of San Francisco outside of Bayview Hunters Point, including a loss of 1,260 persons in Visitacion Valley and a loss of 143 persons in Potrero Hill.
3. Bayview Hunters Point was the only primary neighborhood to experience an absolute increase in the size of its African-American population. Between 1980 and 1990, the number of African-Americans living in Bayview Hunters Point increased by 1,626 from 15,769 in 1980 to 17,395 in 1990.
4. While the Bayview Hunters Point black population increased in absolute size, it decreased as a percentage of total population since other ethnic groups increased at a higher rate than African-Americans. In 1980, African-Americans were 73% of the total population in Bayview Hunters Point; in 1990, this percentage dropped more than ten points to 62%.

* These findings cover population numbers only. Complete census findings relating to age, income, education, homeownership, and other social and economic indices will not be available until the fall of 1991.



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Neighborhoods(continued)

5. Western Addition and OMI also experienced percentage declines in African-American population. Between 1980 and 1990, blacks as a percentage of total population dropped from 42% to 31.5% in Western Addition and from 61.5% to 43% in OMI.
6. Outside of Western Addition, OMI, Bayview Hunters Point, Visitacion Valley and Potrero Hill, most African-Americans are relatively evenly dispersed throughout other parts of San Francisco. Of approximately 152 census tracts in San Francisco, in the vast majority of tracts - about 117 or 72% - blacks form less than 10% of the total population of each tract. Blacks as a percentage of total population range from 0.5% to 9.6% in most San Francisco neighborhoods. This distribution has remained relatively constant between 1980 and 1990.
7. As San Francisco's black population has declined in size, it has also become less segregated. The number of census tracts where blacks form a majority of the civilian population dropped from 13 in 1980 to 6 in 1990. The 6 in 1990 include: 3 in Bayview Hunters Point, virtually all census tracts on the east side of Third Street; 1 in Western Addition; 1 in OMI . and 1 in Visitacion Valley. Of the 7 census tracts where blacks ceased to be a majority of the population, 2 are located in OMI, 3 in Western Addition, and 2 in Bayview Hunters Point.
8. Most of the census tracts where blacks are currently a majority of the population also contain large concentrations of public and federally subsidized housings: namely, census tract 161 in Western Addition; census tracts 231 and 234 in Bayview Hunters Point; and census tract 605 in Visitacion Valley.

Regional

1. The number of blacks currently living in the nine county Bay Area is 535,121 persons; 8.9% of the total Bay Area population which in 1990 was 6,023,577. The absolute increase in black population since 1980 is 68,100 persons. However, blacks as a percentage of total Bay Area population has remained approximately the same as 1980.
2. By and large, the black population live in three counties: Alameda, San Francisco, and Contra Costa. Over 71.5% of all African-American people in the Bay Area live in these three counties. This is a slight decline from 1980, when 75% of all Bay Area blacks lived in these three counties.
3. Alameda County, with Oakland as the center, has the largest portion of Bay Area blacks. The number of African-Americans living in Alameda County is 229,249, which is 42% of the total number of blacks living in the Bay Area. Oakland alone has over twenty-five percent of all blacks living in the Bay Area. The percentage of Bay Area blacks living in Oakland and Alameda County has remained constant between 1980 and 1990.
4. San Francisco County is a distant second to Alameda County as a center of black population in the Bay Area. Its black population of 79,039 is approximately 15% of the total Bay Area black population.

Regional (continued)

5. Over the next two decades, if present trends continue, Contra Costa County will replace San Francisco County as the second largest center of black population in the Bay Area. Its percentage of the total Bay Area black population increased from 12.9% in 1980 to 13.7% in 1990, with an absolute size in 1990 of 74,577.
6. The growth in the Bay Area's black population over the past decade has primarily involved a shift from the west side to the east side of the bay. Two of the most heavily populated counties on the west side of the Bay - San Francisco and San Mateo - both experienced decreases in black population. All other counties in the Bay Area experienced increases in black population, with the largest increases occurring on the eastern and northern sides of the bay.
7. The counties with the largest absolute increases in black population between 1980 and 1990 are by size of increase: Alameda County/25,636 additional persons; Contra Costa County/19,388 additional persons; Solano County/18,054 additional persons; and Santa Clara County/12,496 additional persons.
8. Solano County, which contains the cities of Vallejo and Fairfield as primary towns, had the largest percentage increase in black population from 1980 to 1990. During this period, blacks increased from 11.8% to 13.5% of the total population of Solano County.

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HISTORICAL CHANGE IN SAN FRANCISCO POPULATION

1950-1990

POPULATION	1950		1960		1970		1980		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
TOTAL	775,357	100.0	740,316	100.0	715,674	100.0	678,974	100.0	723,959	100.0
White	693,945	89.0	604,403	81.6	511,186	71.4	395,082	58.2	387,783	53.6
African-American	43,420	5.6	74,383	10.1	96,078	13.4	86,414	12.7	79,039	10.9
Native American	"		"		"		3548	0.5	3456	0.5
Asian	"		"		38,384	5.4	147,426	21.7	210,876	29.1
Other	37,992	4.9	61,530	8.3	70,026	9.8	46,504	6.8	42,805	5.9
Hispanic	"		"		64,395	9.0	83,373	12.3	100,712	13.9

*Included in "Other"
It was not until 1970 that the census permitted adequate classifications of Native American, Asian, and Hispanic.

SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOODS

U.S. CENSUS, 1980-1990

NEIGHBORHOOD	TOTAL POPULATION		WHITES		AFRICAN AMERICANS		NATIVE AMERICANS		ASIANS		OTHERS		HISPANICS	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
WESTERN ADOLPH														
1980	42,911		16,420	38.3	18,551	42.2	505	1.2	5862	13.7	1573	3.7	2165	5.0
1990	45,412		22,298	49.1	14,290	31.5	247	0.5	7208	16.1	1279	2.8	3138	6.9
Rate of Change: 1980-90	+2501	+5.8	+5878	+35.0	-4261	-23.8	-258	-51.1	+1436	+24.5	-294	-18.7	+973	+44.9
BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT														
1980	21,569		3147	14.7	15,769	73.1	54	0.3	1744	8.1	855	4.0	1327	6.2
1990	27,704		2903	10.5	17,395	62.8	94	0.3	6065	21.9	1247	4.5	2611	9.4
Rate of Change	+6135	+28.4	-244	-7.8	+1626	+10.3	+40	+74.1	+4321	+247.8	+392	+45.9	+1284	+96.8
OCEAVIEW, MERCED, INGLESDALE (OMI)														
1980	17,717		4067	23.02	10,894	61.5	57	0.3	1869	10.6	830	4.7	1574	8.9
1990	19,924		4321	21.72	8650	43.4	72	0.4	5634	28.3	1247	6.3	2469	12.4
Rate of Change: 1980-90	+2207		+254	+6.22	-2244	-20.6	+15	+26.3	+3765	+201.4	+417	+50.2	+895	+56.9
VISITACION VALLEY														
1980	21,258		5751	27.1	7953	37.4	96	0.5	5755	27.1	1703	8.0	2839	13.4
1990	23,252		5089	21.9	6693	28.8	88	0.4	9998	43.0	1384	6.0	3310	14.2
Rate of Change: 1980-90	+1994	+9.4	-662	-11.5	-1268	-15.8	-8	-8.3	+4243	+73.7	-319	-18.7	+471	+16.6
POTRERO HILL														
1980	8562		5239	61.2	2043	23.9	80	0.9	554	6.5	646	7.5	1195	14.0
1990	9232		5911	64.0	1900	20.6	75	0.8	937	10.2	409	4.4	1107	12.6
Rate of Change: 1980-90	+670	+7.8	+672	+12.8	-143	-7.0	-5	-6.3	+383	+69.1	-237	-36.7	-28	-0.3
OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS														
1980	566,956		360,457	63.6	31,204	5.5	2756	0.5	131,642	23.2	40,897	7.2	74,273	13.1
1990	598,435		347,261	58.0	30,111	5.0	2880	0.5	180,944	30.2	37,239	6.6	88,022	14.7
Rate of Change: 1980-90	31,479	+5.6	-13,196	-3.7	-1093	-3.5	+124	+4.5	+49,302	+37.52	+3658	+8.9	+13,749	+18.5
TOTAL CITY														
1980	678,973		395,081	58.2	86,414	12.7	3548	0.5	147,426	21.7	46,504	6.9	83,373	12.3
1990	723,959		387,783	53.6	79,039	10.9	3456	0.5	210,876	29.1	42,805	5.9	100,717	13.9
Rate of Change: 1980-90	+44,986	+6.6	-7298	-1.9	-7375	-8.5	-92	-2.6	+63,450	+43.0	-3699	-8.0	+17,344	+20.8

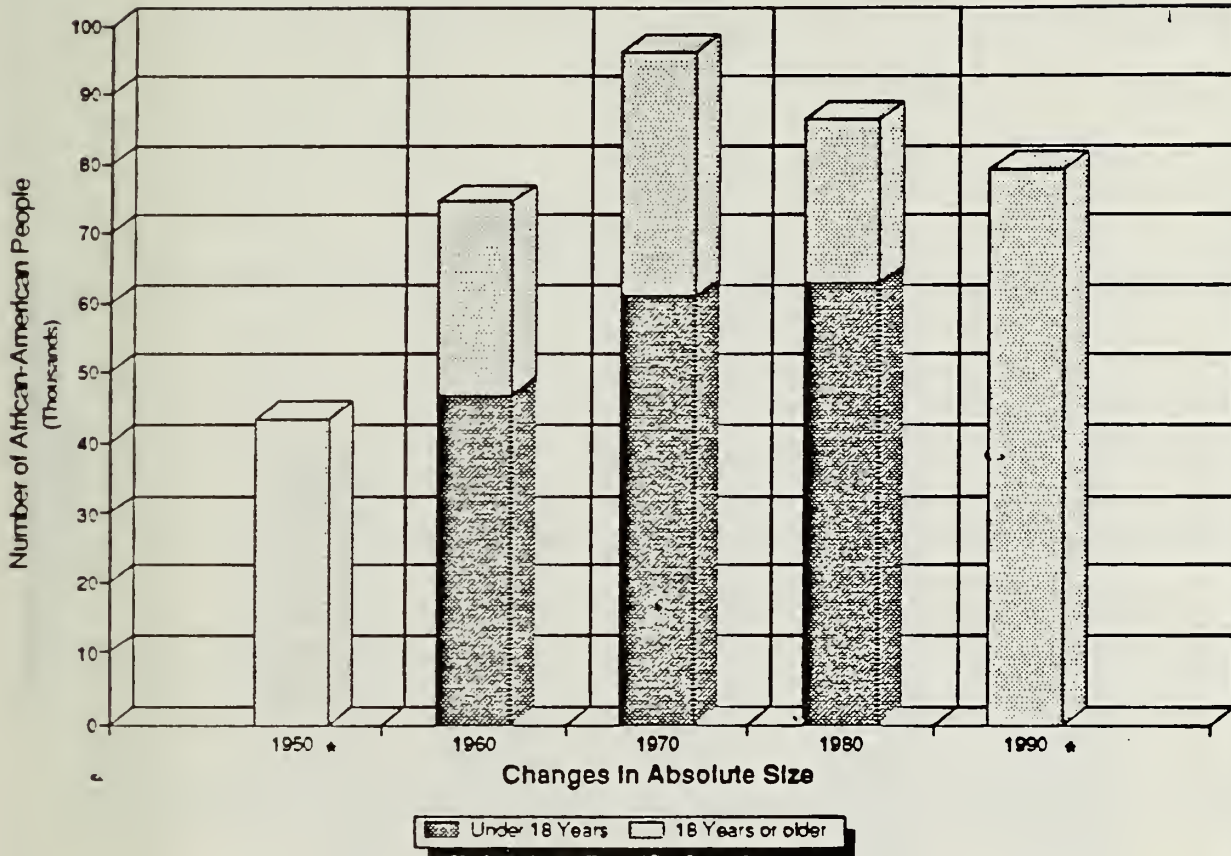
BAY AREA POPULATION BY COUNTIES

U.S. CENSUS, 1980-1990

COUNTY	TOTAL POPULATION		WHITES		AMERICAN INDIANS		NATIVE AMERICANS		ASIAN		OTHERS		HISPANICS	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
ALABAMA														
1980	1,105,380		740,612	67.0	201,611	18.3	7,406	0.7	85,899	7.8	67,810	6.1	127,962	11.6
1990	1,229,182		761,815	59.6	229,249	17.9	8,014	0.7	192,554	15.1	86,670	6.8	181,805	14.2
Percent Change	+113,802	+15.7	+21,203	+2.9	+25,636	+12.6	+1,448	+19.5	+106,655	+124.2	+18,860	+27.8	+51,843	+39.9
SAN FRANCISCO														
1980	678,974		395,082	50.2	86,414	12.7	3548	0.5	147,426	21.7	46,504	6.8	83,373	12.3
1990	723,959		387,783	53.6	79,019	10.9	3456	0.5	210,876	29.1	42,805	5.9	100,712	13.9
Percent Change	+44,985	0.6	-7299	-1.9	-1175	-0.5	-92	1.6	+63,450	+43.0	-3699	8.0	+17,339	+20.8
CONTRA COSTA														
1980	651,255		535,366	81.5	60,189	9.2	3892	0.6	30,636	4.7	21,172	4.1	55,977	8.5
1990	803,732		611,093	76.0	74,577	9.3	5336	0.7	77,012	9.6	35,804	4.5	91,282	11.4
Percent Change	+152,477	+22.3	+75,637	+14.1	+19,388	+23.9	+1444	+37.1	+46,376	+151.4	+14,632	+69.1	+35,305	+63.0
SANTA CLARA														
1980	1,295,071		1,017,855	78.6	43,715	3.4	8506	0.7	99,935	7.7	125,060	9.7	226,611	17.5
1990	1,497,577		1,032,190	68.9	56,211	3.8	9269	0.6	261,466	17.5	138,441	9.2	314,564	21.0
Percent Change	+202,506	+15.6	+14,335	+0.1	+12,496	+28.6	+763	+9.0	+161,531	+161.6	+13,381	+10.7	+87,953	+38.8
SOLANO														
1980	235,203		174,181	74.1	27,785	11.8	1981	0.8	17,377	7.4	13,879	5.9	24,773	10.5
1990	340,421		227,292	66.8	45,839	13.5	3070	0.9	43,440	12.8	20,780	6.1	45,517	13.4
Percent Change	+105,218	+44.7	+53,111	+30.5	+18,054	+65.0	+1089	+53.0	+26,063	+150	+6901	+49.7	+20,744	+83.7
SAN MATEO														
1980	588,164		459,235	78.1	35,493	6.0	2481	0.4	56,366	9.6	34,589	5.9	73,362	12.5
1990	649,623		466,885	71.9	35,283	5.4	2987	0.5	109,281	16.8	35,187	5.4	114,627	17.6
Percent Change	+62,459	+10.5	+1650	+1.7	-210	-0.6	+506	+20.4	+53,915	+93.9	+598	+1.7	+41,265	+56.3
MARIN														
1980	222,952		206,436	92.6	5505	2.5	772	0.3	5432	2.4	4807	2.2	9241	4.1
1990	230,096		204,128	88.7	8172	3.6	789	0.3	9442	4.1	7565	3.3	17,930	7.8
Percent Change	+7144	+3.2	-2308	-1.1	+2667	+48.5	+17	+2.2	+4010	+73.8	+2758	+57.4	+8689	+94.0
SOLANO														
1980	299,835		278,172	92.8	3459	1.2	3488	1.2	4634	1.5	10,082	3.4	20,850	7.0
1990	388,222		351,650	90.6	5547	1.4	4397	1.1	10,774	2.8	15,854	4.1	41,223	10.6
Percent Change	+88,387	+29.5	+73,478	26.4	+2088	+60.4	+909	+26.1	+6140	+132.5	+5772	+57.3	+20,373	+97.2
NAPA														
1980	99,199		90,856	91.6	887	0.9	725	0.7	2095	2.5	4636	4.2	8636	8.7
1990	110,765		98,469	88.9	1204	0.7	828	0.7	3604	3.3	6660	6.0	15,941	14.4
Percent Change	+11,566	+11.7	+7613	+8.4	317	+35.7	+103	+14.2	+1509	+72.0	+2024	+43.7	+7305	+85.6

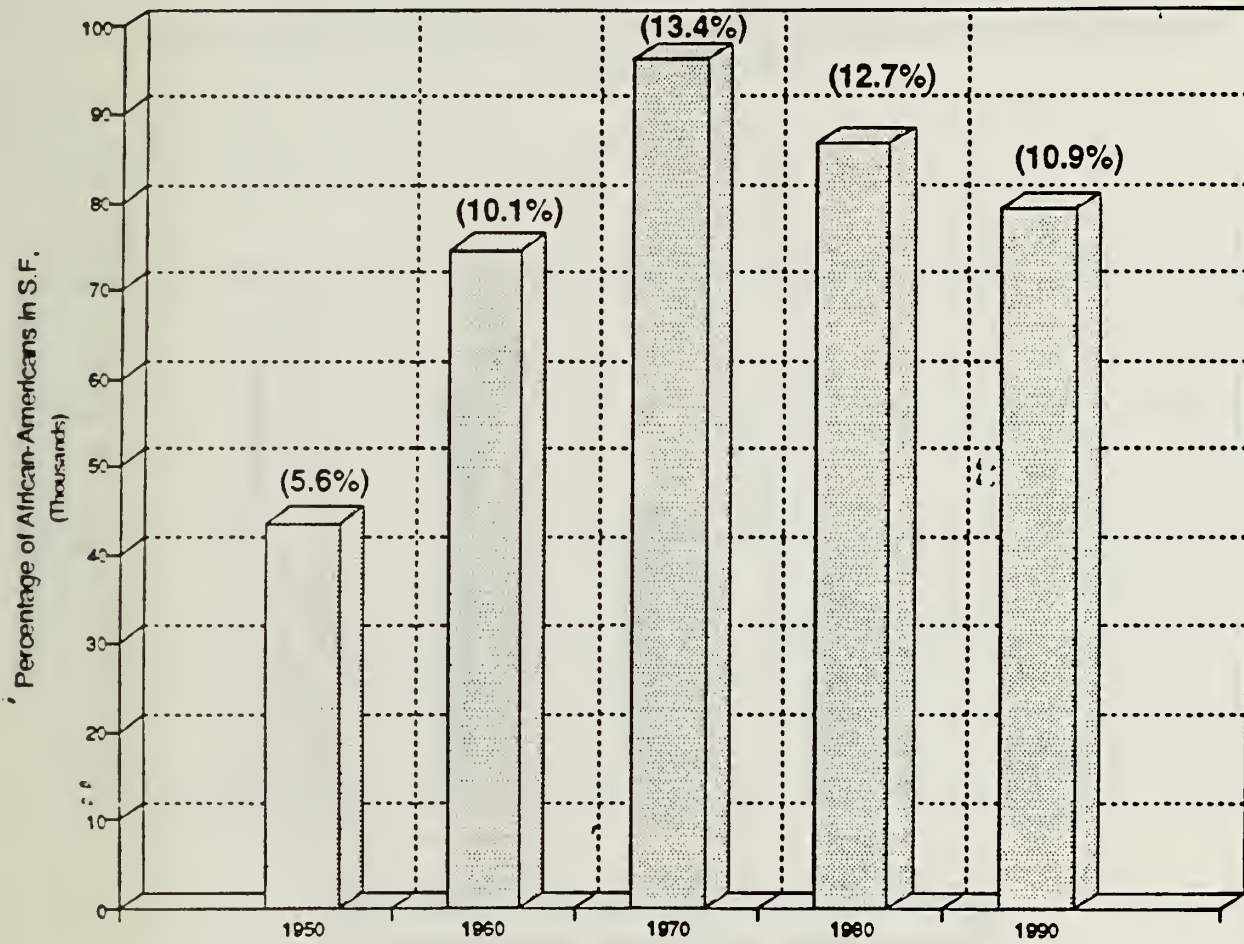
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HISTORICAL CHANGE
SAN FRANCISCO AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION
1950-1990

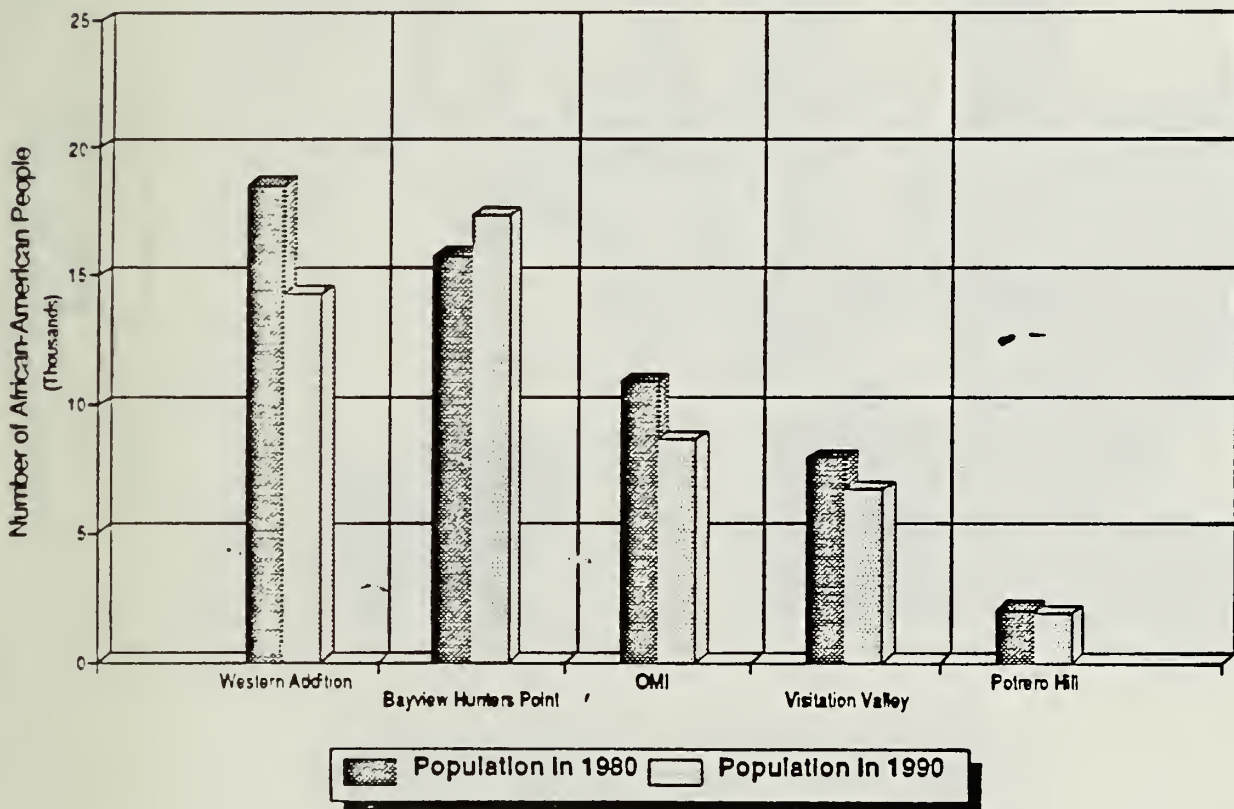


*Data on age distribution not yet available

CHANGES IN PERCENTAGE SIZE



**SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOODS WITH LARGEST AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION
CHANGE 1980 - 1990**



BAY AREA AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION 1980 - 1990

